



SAN ANTONIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Contact: Sgt. Gabriel Trevino Date: November 24th, 2001 Release No.01-155

NEWS RELEASE

Officer-Involved Shooting

On November 24th, 2001 at approximately 8:20 p.m., an on-duty San Antonio Police Officer was involved in a shooting, whereas a suspect was shot and is currently being treated at Wilford Hall Hospital.

The preliminary investigation reveals the following: A 911 call was received from a complainant at 7:56 p.m. The “refused” complainant told 911 operators there was a “burglary of a vehicle in progress” at 6840 IH 35S. South patrol officer Paul Zavala, a 7-year veteran, responded to the call and arrived minutes later. As the officers arrived, they were informed by a witness that the suspect was currently burglarizing a car in the Baker Auto Sales used car lot. Officer Zavala parked his patrol car behind the car lot and started to exit the patrol car to investigate the call. As Officer Zavala walked around an abandoned home, he saw a White Cadillac coming directly towards him at a high rate of speed. Officer Zavala reports that he feared for his life and fired his service weapon multiple times. After being shoot, the suspect lost control of the White Cadillac and struck an adjacent used car lot fence, where the car came to a stop. The suspect was found to be shot at least twice and was subsequently transported to Wilford Hall for treatment. The driven White Cadillac was in fact stolen from Baker Auto Sales.

The identity of the suspect is currently being withheld pending formal charges. The San Antonio Police Shooting Team has been assigned the case and will forward their findings to the Chief of Police and Bexar County District Attorney’s Office.

As with standard procedure, the officer will be placed on administrative duty pending the investigation.

For Immediate Release